

SEP 17 1999

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September 15, 1999

Mr. Rick Breitenbach
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Breitenbach:

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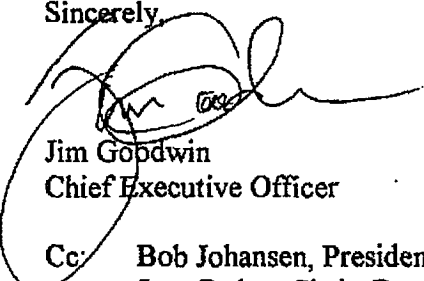
The Chico Chamber of Commerce is a business support and advocacy organization representing nearly 1,000 business in Chico and Butte County. I am writing to express our concerns regarding the current CALFED proposals.

The Chico Chamber of Commerce supports the building and maintaining of water storage facilities as part of any overall state water plan, and we believe that new storage must come before new conveyance facilities are considered and not after conservation efforts are exhausted.

Unfortunately, the need for additional storage is not given a prominent role in the current CALFED proposals and "commitment" to new storage is weak. Instead of acknowledging a priority position for new storage in the plan, the proposal relies on taking water away from people, through transfer, conservation and the idling of productive land. Instead of subtracting from one group or use to provide for another, we should add to the total water supply so that we can meet all of our water needs.

Please make sure that new storage is given its rightful place in this plan.

Sincerely,



Jim Goodwin
Chief Executive Officer

Cc: Bob Johansen, President
Jane Dolan, Chair, Butte County Board of Supervisors

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